

CENTRAL INTELLIGENCE AGENCY
INFORMATION REPORT

REPORT

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COUNTRY East Germany
SUBJECT Production of Special Steels

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1. In 1950 and 1951, steel required for the manufacture of turbine blades was produced at the Max-Huetten Foundry at Unterwellenborn and at the Hennigsdorf Steel Works and Rolling Mill (SWH). Since this special steel has been made exclusively at the SWH. This steel is only used for turbines to be installed on Soviet ships requisitioned in Germany. In 1953, the acceptance conditions for this steel were raised and up to 50 percent of the steel was rejected.
2. Two types of turbine blade steel designated X 20 Cr 13 and 25 Mn V 8 are manufactured [redacted] X 20 Cr 13 steel in billets costs 940 Eastmark [redacted] sheets of 47 x 39 or 80 x 35 cm, a ton of steel costs [redacted] the sheets are delivered to the Fortuna Works at 20 Auen Strasse, Suhl, (formerly J.P. Sauer & Sohn), the VEB Turbinenfabrik at 4 Industriegelaende, Dresden N 15, the VEB Goerlitzer Maschin [redacted] and VEB Bergmann-Borsig in Berlin-Wilhelmsruh [redacted] delivered to VEB Walzwerk Finow.
3. In about March 1954, the production of steel for turbine blades was suspended at the SWH, because it was found out that the fire bricks lining the furnaces at the SWH were unsuited for the production of high-quality steels. New fire bricks were ordered, but they had not arrived by mid-August 1954. The production of steel for turbine blades is scheduled to be resumed after the installation of the new fire-bricks. Experiments to have types 25 Mn V 8 and X 20 Cr 13 steel produced at VEB Edelstahlwerk Doehlen proved failures. Similar experiments made at the Max-Huetten Foundry at Unterwellenborn August 1954, yielded better steel than was obtained at SWH and Doehlen. The steel manufactured at the Max-Huetten Foundry was, [redacted] not released for further processing.

Comment. The "Standardliste Eisen und Stahl" (standard list for iron and steel products), issue of 1 December 1953, includes type 25 Mn V 8 steel in the category of special steels Bl. H 11 D 2. [redacted] X 20 Cr 13 steel in the category of rust- [redacted] Bl. H 11 D 2.

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